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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Bruck et al. 07-Mar-2003  
Serial No.: 09/509,239 Group Art Unit: 1648  
Filed: March 23, 2000 Examiner: Winkler, Ulrike  
For: FUSION PROTEINS COMPRISING HIV-1 TAT AND/OR NEF PROTEINS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action for the above captioned application mailed on September 10, 2002, Applicants provide the following amendments and remarks. A petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a three (3) month extension of time accompanies this response. Please charge any additional fees that may be required in support of this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-2570.

**AMENDMENT**

In the claims:

Please amend Claim 32 as follows:

32. (Amended) An immunogenic composition which comprises a fusion protein comprising an HIV Tat protein or a mutant thereof linked to an HIV Nef protein or a mutant thereof, wherein the HIV Tat and Nef proteins or mutants thereof are linked in any

*Handwritten initials*